

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 1-2 and 4-13 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 1-2 and 4-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Office Action states “Claim 1 recites the limitations of ‘recording the occurrence’ and ‘the predetermined event has not been recorded’. It is unclear whether the event itself or the occurrence of the event (indication) is being recorded.” Applicant hereby states that the claimed invention requires the occurrence of a predetermined event being recorded. This is entirely consistent with the explicit claim language. For example, claim 1 explicitly requires “the switching center having event detection means for detecting a recording the occurrence of a predetermined event”, “(i) notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of that attempt when an occurrence of the predetermined event has been recorded by the event detection means”, and “(ii) establish or terminate said call connection without notifying the enhanced service apparatus when an occurrence of the predetermined event has not been recorded by the event detection means.” Similar comments apply to the remaining claims. The explicit and plain claim language thus makes it clear that recording is made in relation to an occurrence of a predetermined event (as opposed to the event itself). Applicant thus respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1-2 and 4-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Takeda. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Section 4 (page 6) of the Office Action states “Applicant argues that Takeda fails to teach or suggest the limitation: ‘notify the enhanced service processing apparatus of that attempt.’” However, this statement mischaracterizes the present invention as well as Applicant’s arguments. Applicant submits that Takeda actually fails to teach or suggest that this identified feature is a conditional which only occurs “when an occurrence of a predetermined event has been recorded by the event detection means (emphasis added),” as required by independent claim 1. Similar comments apply to the other claims.

Exemplary embodiments of the present invention provide the advantage that the enhanced service processing apparatus is only identified when it is needed, which is based on the occurrence of predetermined event(s) associated with the subscriber line. Exemplary embodiments of the present invention record occurrence(s) of the predetermined event(s) and then process calls accordingly. This differs substantially from those systems (like Takeda) which process calls based on details associated with the call itself.

Takeda fails to teach or suggest previously recording the occurrence of a predetermined event and then using this information to determine how to process subsequent calls. Instead, calls received in the Takeda system are processed in an ad hoc basis, and the manner in which a call is processed is only dependent on the call itself. In particular, steps 61-63 (which precede steps 63-69 of the Office Action that are described in col. 6, lines 14-43 specifically identified in the Office Action) describe a process in

which all calls are treated in the same manner by creating a BCSM (basic call state model) corresponding to the call. Again, this emphasizes that calls received in Takeda's system are processed only dependent on the call itself. In contrast, the present invention requires that the notification of the enhanced service apparatus only takes place if the occurrence of a predetermined event has been previously recorded and thus does not suffer from the problems associated with Takeda including increased communication traffic between elements.

With respect to the Office Action's arguments bridging pages 6-7 of the Office Action, Applicant again submits that Takeda fails to teach or suggest previously recording the occurrence of an event and using this information to determine how to process subsequent calls. While col. 3, lines 1-5 (specifically identified by the Office Action) discloses a "first memory means" and a "second memory means", all received calls and stored information relating thereto is only dependent on the call itself, not based on the prior recording of occurrence of an event.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-2 and 4-13 are not "obvious" over Takeda and respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

PETTIFOR et al.
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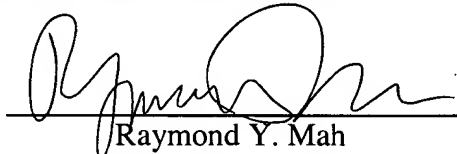
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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